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Letter, 1966 March 1, from Sidney Easton to Eva Jessye

Sidney Easton

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107-16 Northern Boulevard
Corona, New York 11368
March 1, 1966

Miss Eva Jessye
Diamond Missouri

Dear Eva:

Received your letter of February 8th, and had intended answering before now, but I am up to my ears in work. I am writing my autobiography, and have been for the past seven (7) months. It is really a tough job, as my memory is not what it used to be, and I am catching the devil. However, Harriet has now retired, and will endeavor to help me straighten it out.

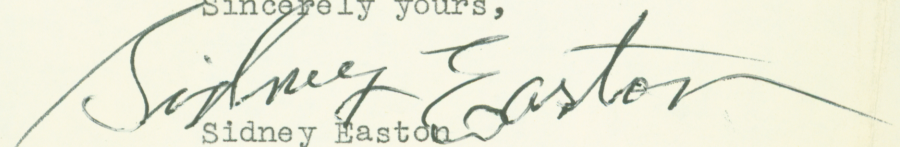
Now in reference to the information you require. The big mouth comedian was "Billy Kersans". Yes, I remember Jack Wiggins, he was the greatest dancer we had, and the first one to invent taps for the shoes. Your description of Bessie Smith is O.K. Pops of Pops and Louie passed away, and he was Alice Whitman's son. Alberta and Essie have both passed. I don't know too much about Black Pattie. I worked in her show in Savannah, when I was in the Savannah theatre. She was a top singer and a great actress. Her comedian at that time was Julius Glenn.

You mentioned my having told the old folks at the Salvation Army about some escapades of mine during my youth. At the present I can't recall them, but as I continue with my story, should I recollect same, I shall be glad to forward the information to you.

Again relative to Jack Wiggins, he was the greatest five (5) minute dancer in show business.

Trusting that this information, while not too much will help you with your story, and wishing you much success, health and prosperity in your endeavor, Harriet joins me in sending love and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,


Sidney Easton